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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 25X REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 2 Oct. 1950

SUBJECT SNB Units in Plzen-Zelezna Ruda Area; Border Security Measures

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Major Hulka, Commanding Officer of the SNB regional headquarters at Plzen, has been released from his post and attached to the Regional National Committee at Plzen. The following officers are stationed at the Plzen headquarters:

a. Deputy Commanding Officer

Lt. Cerny, who is now acting as commanding officer.

b. Education Officer

Staff Capt. Hrich

c. In Charge of Military Affairs

Capt. Kulhanek

About the beginning of March 1950, 1st Lt. Nerad was removed from the headquarters even though he had the backing of the party.

2. Staff Capt. Hejlícek, Commanding Officer of the SNB district headquarters at Klatovy, was retired in March 1950. He was known to be an active Communist.

The SNB post at Klatovy is commanded by W/O Barak

Another member of this post is W/O Vaclav Kucera, who is

a former member of the National Socialist Party and is now a Communist.

3. The following SNB units have been strengthened:

a. At Zelezna Ruda-Alzbetin, 40 new SNB members have been added to the usual 16 members. The new members are quartered either in the Rada Hotel in Zelezna Ruda Mestys, or in the new wooden barracks behind the Hotel Bavaria in the direction of Alzbetin. This unit has the following vehicles:

- 1) 3 Skoda cars, jeep type
2) 1 Tatra 57
3) 3 motorcycles, Cz 125

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- b. At Hojsova Straz, 20 new SNB members were received at the same time as at Zelezna Ruda-Alzbetin. They are quartered in a castle about 600 m from Hojsova Straz. There is also an SNB post at Hojsova Straz.
4. The following border security measures have been taken:
- a. In the Susice and Klatovy districts, those inhabitants living 5-7 km from the border were evacuated. In Zelezna Ruda Mestys about ten families were ordered by the District National Committee to leave the border region since they were not considered reliable.
 - b. All roads and forest paths have been barricaded with felled trees and obstacles, and the roads in the Alzbetin and Gerlova Hut areas have antitank obstacles which are not yet in place. In the area of Svata Katerina near Nyrsko on the line of the Steinwald woods towards Seidlovy Dvory, the first zone of antitank obstacles has been established.
 - c. All railroad stations as far as 20 km from the border as well as cars in this area are watched by the SNB. Unscheduled checks are made on the following railroad lines: Klatovy-Horazdovice, Plzen-Klatovy, Klatovy-Domazlice, and Klatovy-Zelezna Ruda.
 - d. In the Klatovy and Susice areas, guards have been observed on the roads and at the railroad bridges.
 - e. The actual border zone is not guarded much. Most SNB guards patrol the area between the two border zones, about 7 km from the border. These two zones are divided by roads and paths which are under constant watch. An SNB patrol consists usually of six men.
 - f. Guarding of the Zelezna Ruda - Alzbetin area is done by SNB members or by SNB members together with soldiers. There are always two SNB men on duty or, when the guard is combined, one SNB commander and two soldiers. These soldiers come from the Spicak garrison. Checks are made by the SNB personnel with the assistance of the soldiers. Firing of weapons is done only upon order of the SNB member. Length of duty is between 4 and 8 hours, and the actual assignment is never known in advance. A tour of duty at Alzbetin is as follows:
 - 1) Road along the boundary in a northwesterly direction.
 - 2) Path in woods to Certovo Jezero and Cerne Jezero and sometimes to the Hotel Prokop.
 - 3) Along the eastern edge of the wood as far as a group of buildings* where the guard remains 2-3 hours, and return by the same route.
 - 4) Road from Zelezna Ruda To Hotel Rixi at Spicak, and to Hotel Prokop, and back again.
 - 5) Road to Panferhuette.
 - 6) Wood path to Polom.
- SNB members have type 48 sub-machine guns with two magazines and 200 cartridges, pistols with two magazines, and two hand grenades. Soldiers are armed with Soviet sub-machine guns, two magazines and 80 cartridges.
- g. The zone in the Zelezna Ruda area has been marked with red-white stakes which are easily seen. The boundary of this zone runs via the Spicak railroad station along the western side of the embankment, around the Hotels Rixi and Prokop, and farther along the railroad to Nyrsko.
 - h. Passengers detraining at Spicak and Zelezna Ruda, where no special entry permission is required, are checked by two SNB men who arrive by motorcycle. Travel as far as the railroad station at Zelezna Ruda-Alzbetin is forbidden.

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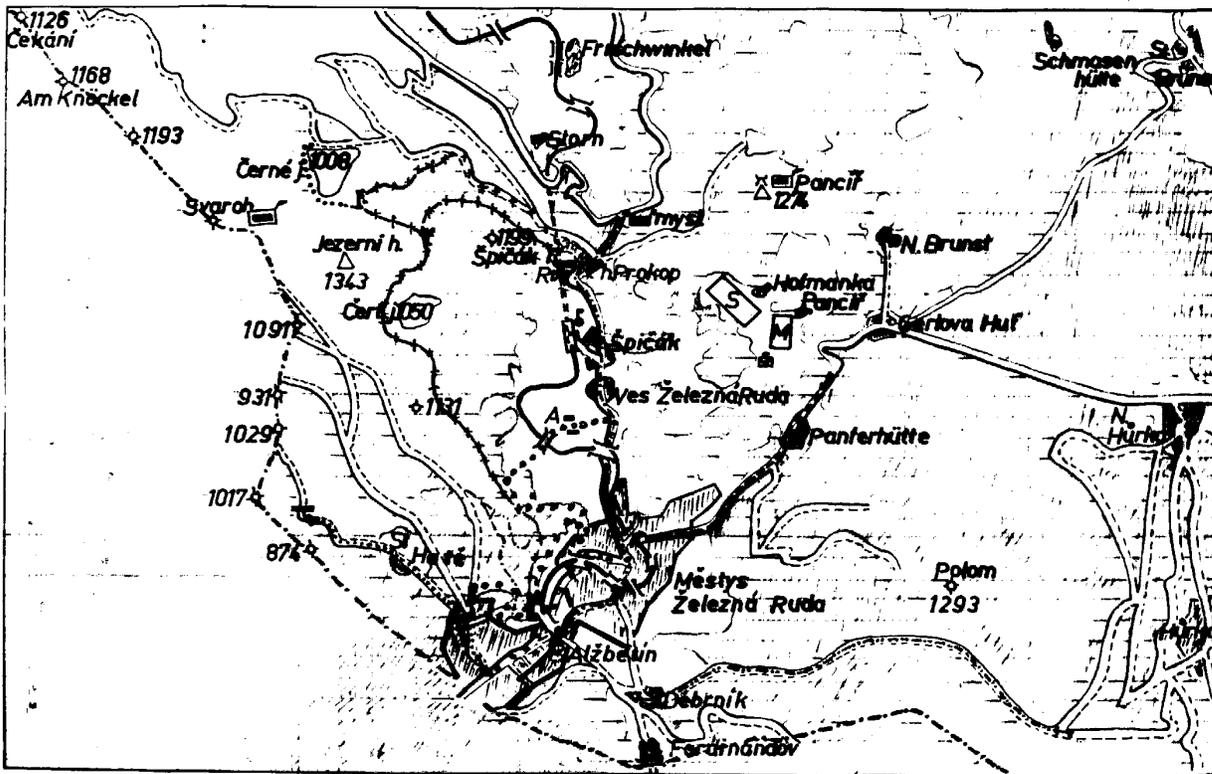
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5. A large ammunition storehouse has been set up in Spaleny Les, which is located east of the Luby railroad station on the Klatovy-Horazdovice line. It was originally a rifle range, but many wooden buildings have recently been built and ammunition and explosives have been brought in. The entire area surrounded by a barbed-wire fence, is forbidden to residents living in the vicinity, and is under guard.
6. New fortifications are being built in the Cesky Krumlov area along the Czech/German border. Construction is of Soviet type and under the supervision of Soviet experts.

25X1 Comment: See "A" on attached sketch.

Attachment: Sketch of Zelezna Ruda area guarded by SNB.

SNB GUARDS IN AREA ŽELEZNÁ RUDA



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LEGEND :

S	Rifle-range	Guard No. 3
M	Garrison's Ammunition Store	-----	" " 4
3	Guard-room	-----	" " 5
.....	Guard No. 1	-----	" " 6
.....	" " 2	-----	

SCALE : 1 : 50,000

